

Appl. No. 10/708,043  
Amdt. dated August 31, 2005  
Reply to Office action of June 15, 2005

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harrington (US 6,269,994).

5           **Response:**

          Claim 1 has been amended to overcome this rejection. Claim 1 now contains the limitation that an end of the blade has a semicircular shape, and that a radius of the semicircular end is smaller than a thickness of the blade. This limitation is supported in figures 4 and 7 along with paragraph 20 of the specification. In addition,  
10       the claims have been amended to emphasize that the material being folded is a sheet material, such as paper or thin sheets of plastic. No new matter is added.

          The present invention apparatus for forming a folding-line on a sheet material merely bends the sheet material and does not cut through it. Therefore, the end of the  
15       blade 243 (or 245), shown in Fig.4 (or Fig. 6), has a rounded shape for preventing the blade from cutting through the sheet material.

          On the other hand, Harrington teaches a tile cutter that is used for cutting through tile with a sharp blade. Harrington does not teach or suggest the tile cutter  
20       being used for forming a folding-line in a tile, and only teaches that the blade is used for cutting through the tile, not for folding the tile. As best shown in Fig.4 of Harrington, the blade 48 has a sharpened end for cutting through the tile, and does not have a semicircular shape. Therefore, Harrington does not anticipate all of the limitations of the currently amended claim 1. Using Harrington's tile cutter on a  
25       sheet material would cut the sheet material instead of folding it, which is a different objective than that of the apparatus of claim 1.

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Claim 4 is also amended to clarify that in some embodiments, the blade is fixed to the carriage instead of being rotatably coupled to the carriage. Fixing the blade to the carriage prevents the blade from rotating.

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However, Harrington only teaches the use of blades rotatably fixed to the carriage, and does not teach a blade that is fixed to the carriage without being able to rotate. Therefore, Harrington does not anticipate the limitations of claim 4.

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Claims 6 and 7 are amended to agree with the changes made to claim 1. No new matter has been introduced through any of the amendments to the claims.

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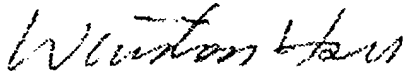
Furthermore, claims 3-7 are dependent on the amended claim 1, and should be allowed if the amended claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1 and 3-7 is respectfully requested. In light of the above statements in favor of patentability, the applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Sincerely yours,



Date: August 31, 2005

5 Winston Hsu, Patent Agent No. 41,526  
P.O. BOX 506, Merrifield, VA 22116, U.S.A.  
Voice Mail: 302-729-1562  
Facsimile: 806-498-6673  
e-mail : winstonhsu@naipo.com

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